

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. -14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended)

A method for handling requests using a computer, the steps comprising:

receiving a request message in a first format;

verifying the first format of the request message for protocol and format;

translating the request message from the first format to a second format;

wrapping the translated message in a SOAP (Simple Object Assess Protocol) packet;

parsing the SOAP packet to determine the operation being called;

calling the operation upon a server;

creating a SOAP response document from the response from the server;

unwrapping the SOAP response document;

converting the response from said second format to said first format; and

transmitting a response message in the first format.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented)

The method of claim 15, wherein the step of receiving a request message further includes receiving a request message in slash format;

wherein the step of translating the request message further includes translating the request message from slash format to XML format;

wherein the step of converting the response further includes converting the response from XML format to slash format; and

wherein the step of transmitting a response message further includes transmitting a response message in slash format.

18. (Currently amended)

A computer system for handling requests, comprising:

a server ~~for receiving~~ which receives commands and transmitting responses;

at least one client computer system ~~for transmitting~~ which transmits request messages and receiving response messages in a first format;

a translator which checks the request messages from the client computer system for protocol and format, and translates the request messages into a second format which is a protocol and format which is understood by the server;

a processor which receives the translated request messages from the translator in a second format, transforms the translated request messages into commands that can be understood by the server, one of calls and commands information from the server, receives responses from the server, processes the responses from the server into processed response messages in the second format, and transmits the processed response messages to the translator in the second format;

wherein the translator receives the processed response messages from the processor in the second format, translates the processed response messages into the first format, and transmits the translated response messages to the client computer system in the first format.

19. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 18, wherein the computer system is a computer reservation system.

20. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 18, wherein the first format is a slash format.

21. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 20, wherein sockets are used to transmit the request messages in slash format.

22. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 18, wherein the second format is via a SOAP packet.

23. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 22, wherein after the translator translates the request messages, the translator wraps the request messages in SOAP packets and transmits the SOAP packets to the processor.

24. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 22, wherein the processor wraps processed response messages in SOAP packets and transmits the SOAP packets to the translator.

25. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 18, wherein the translator translates request messages from slash format to XML format.

26. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 18, wherein the translator receives processed response messages from the processor and translates the processed response messages from XML format to slash format.

27. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 25, wherein after the translator translates the request messages, the translator wraps the request messages in SOAP packets and transmits the SOAP packets to the processor.

28. (Previously presented)

The system according to claim 26, wherein the processor wraps processed response messages in SOAP packets and transmits the SOAP packets to the translator.